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Identical letters dated 6 February 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 6 February 2001 from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq. The Minister calls attention to the ongoing wanton aggression against Iraq by United States and British aircraft in the unlawful no-flight zones and to the fact that in the period from 26 January to 1 February 2001 they carried out 145 sorties, 52 of them from Saudi Arabia, 35 from Kuwait and 58 from Turkey.

The Minister reaffirms the Government of Iraq's condemnation of these acts of aggression against Iraqi territory, and he states that international responsibility for them must be borne by the United States of America, the United Kingdom and the countries that provide the logistic support for this aggression, namely Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey. He urges you to perform the duties assigned to you under the Charter by halting this unwarranted aggression and ensuring that it does not recur.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed **Al-Humaimidi**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the identical letters dated 6 February 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

I should like to inform you that United States and British warplanes based in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey have continued to violate the airspace of the Republic of Iraq. They carried out 145 sorties in the period from 26 January to 1 February 2001, 52 of them from Saudi Arabia, 35 from Kuwait and 58 from Turkey, as shown hereunder.

1. In the northern region 58 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 1100 hours on 29 January 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 12 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Zakho, Amadiyah and Ayn Zalah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1335 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1045 hours on 30 January 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Zakho, Baibo, Aqrah, Amadiyah and Dohuk areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1345 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1030 hours on 31 January 2001, United States and British F-15, F-16 and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Dohuk, Mosul, Irbil, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Ayn Zalah and Amadiyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1335 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 1030 hours on 1 February 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Dohuk, Mosul, Irbil, Tall Afar and Ayn Zalah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1330 hours, drove them off.

2. In the southern region 87 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 9,000 to 13,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 2015 hours on 26 January 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 18 missions, 14 of them from Saudi territory with the support of two AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and four from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Shinafiyah, Lasaf,

Ashbajah, Mashkhab, Qal'at Sukkar and Qurnah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2125 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1055 hours on 27 January 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 19 missions, eight of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 11 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Safwan, Artawi, Jalibah, Busayyah, Basrah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Hayy, Najaf and Lasaf areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2220 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1910 hours on 28 January 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 14 missions, six of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and eight from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Najaf, Diwaniyah, Karbala', Kut, Salman and Shaykh Sa'd areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2025 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 1210 hours on 29 January 2001, United States and British F-15, F-16 and EA-6B aircraft coming from Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out four missions, were supported by an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace and overflew the Faw, Umm Qasr, Jalibah and Basrah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1315 hours, drove them off.

(e) At 1930 hours on 30 January 2001, United States and British F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 16 missions, 10 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and six from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Busayyah, Samawah, Lasaf, Artawi, Taqtaqanah, Ukhaydir, Qal'at Sukkar, Nasiriyah, Rumaythah, Shinafiyah, Afak, Hashimiyah, Kut, Shaykh Sa'd, Nu'maniyah, Qurnah and Basrah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2150 hours, drove them off.

(f) At 1935 hours on 1 February 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 16 missions, 14 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and two from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Qurnah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Shinafiyah, Lasaf, Ashbajah and Qal'at Sukkar areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2050 hours, drove them off.

This aggression illustrates the bellicose attitude being maintained by the United States of America and the United Kingdom towards Iraq. Since 1992, it has

become a fixed policy aimed at undermining the country's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity and at the systematic and concerted destruction of Iraqi lives, infrastructure and civilian installations. It is a policy that has been affirmed in successive statements made by United States and British officials.

The Government of Iraq categorically rejects the two so-called no-flight zones, which were imposed by unilateral decision of the United States of America and the United Kingdom and lack any legal basis. Iraq rejects all the consequences of this illegal decision and, in particular, the flimsy excuses and pretexts used by these States in an attempt to justify their military aggression against our country.

The logistic support provided by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey to the Americans and the British has made these countries key partners in the aggression being committed against Iraq, so that they bear full international responsibility under international law. This includes liability for full compensation for the loss and damage, in both human and material terms, that is caused by these illegal practices.

The Government of Iraq further renews its call to the countries participating in this aggression to desist forthwith from internationally prohibited acts that violate Iraq's sovereignty, place its security and integrity in grave danger and pose a direct and serious threat to international peace and security.

As it condemns these acts of aggression against Iraqi targets and installations, the Government of Iraq urges you to perform the duties assigned to you under the Charter as they relate to the maintenance of international peace and security by intervening with the governments of the countries in question with a view to inducing them to halt, end and desist from any resumption of their constant and unwarranted aggression against an independent, sovereign State.

(*Signed*) Tariq **Aziz**
Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs